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LB 126, 267

looked at that ahead of time and said that...said it right because I don't think that's right. Anyway, with them comments and what we have in statute now, I'm going to support Landis' amendment. It might not be everything we want but I think that's the right step in the right direction if we just enforce the laws that we have on the books right now. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Jones. Senator Brown, on the Landis amendment.

SENATOR BROWN: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I wondered if Senator Landis would yield to a question.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Landis, will you yield, please?

SENATOR LANDIS: It's possible.

SENATOR BROWN: Senator, I have received communications from several retailers in my district who have never had a violation and yet they seem very threatened by this...this power that we are delegating to the Liquor Control Commission, and they talk about how their...the people who man their cash registers are...they try to train them but they are not always long-term employees, and I wondered if you could say something that I could respond to them that will allay their fears that somehow they're going to get a number of violations and have this happen to them right away as a result of this...this amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: A couple of things. In 1998, there was 310 violations of the liquor laws by liquor retailers. Of those, 179 were sales to minors or minors in possession on the premises. Of the 179, 61 were for second offense and 18 were for third offense. So those would be the kinds of situations we're talking about, all right. And at the time that they tried to analyze the cost of LB 126, the commission said, look, this is discretionary. Off the top of our heads, we might use this in 15 percent of the cases; 15 percent of the cases would be a total of 12 licenses in a year. That's the best estimate that this would apply to and be used against, 12 lic...12 licenses out of 310 violations and out of how many license holders. Why? Because it's a special tool used in a special deterrence situation that you would use when there was some element, I